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Letters

Media War

Dear Editor:

In "Britain Wages Media War" [*L.A. Weekly*, July 8-14], Scott S. Smith throws a probing searchlight on American misconceptions about the British-Irish conflict. By publishing this insightful article, the *Weekly* is helping U.S. media editors become aware that, as Smith says, "they have acted as virtual mouthpieces for the British government." Thank you for publishing the story. We have been brainwashed by the British long enough.

—Kathleen Hughes
Pasadena

Dear Editor:

Re: Scott S. Smith's "Britain Wages Media War." Could you please inform me where in Los Angeles I might go to purchase books and/or periodicals regarding the war in Northern Ireland? I would like to learn more about this country and the current struggles taking place there.

—Marie DeMarco
North Hollywood

SCOTT S. SMITH REPLIES: *The newsweekly* Irish People *is an excellent source of information on this subject and is available locally, along with plenty of other material on the Irish struggle, at Midnight Special bookstore in the Santa Monica Mall and at the Irish Import Shop at 738 N. Vine St. in Hollywood. For a list of local Irish organizations and suggested reading, you may write directly to me at 2455 Calle Robles, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.*

Silver Lining Dept.

Dear Editor:

Your Insights page reaction to Lloyd Bentsen's nomination as Dukakis' running mate ["Trigger Happy," *L.A. Weekly*, July 22-28] can be mollified by this realization: Bensten will be removed from the Senate seat where his votes for contra aid, curtailment of abortion rights, etc. will no longer happen. (As constitutionally ordained, he will be president of the Senate, but will have no vote except in cases of a tie.) Thus, Dukakis' "Machiavellian selection" is one of those "scandals" we can relish!

—Kenneth H. Bonnell
Los Angeles

Dirtier Than Harry, Even

Dear Editor:

In Helen Knode's interesting article on the *Dirty Harry* series ["The Trouble With Harry," *L.A. Weekly*, July 22-28], she wrote, "Rumor has it that Eastwood wanted *Tightrope* to be a Dirty Harry film and that Warner Bros. talked him out of it." To dispel the rumor: I wrote *Tightrope* on spec and didn't give it to Clint until it was completely finished. When he agreed to play the role, I was intrigued by the idea that some people might see the main character as Dirty Harry getting *really* dirty, but at no time did Clint, Warner Bros. or I ever see *Tightrope* as a Dirty Harry movie.

—Richard Tuggle
Santa Monica

Bugged

Dear Editor:

Maybe Jonathan Gold continued drinking Old Fashioneds before he wrote his review of Richard Meltzer's *L.A. Is the Capital of Kansas* [*L.A. Weekly*, July 22-28]. It certainly reads like the scribblings of a man working with impaired aesthetic function. Comparing Meltzer to Louis-Ferdinand Celine and Joseph Heller is like comparing a blood-sucking spotted fever tick to a golden eagle. Meltzer is an obnoxious little gadfly with a dictionary of locker-room cliches and a hard-on for nihilism. He is not an artist, but a typist with lots of free time on his hands.

—Cleats Creason
Los Angeles

Both Sides, Now

Dear Editor:

The various "States of Repression" articles in your July 8-14 issue are good examples of the *Weekly*'s bias. You people consistently criticize the U.S. government and our allies, yet in all the years I've been reading the *Weekly*, I haven't read a single negative word about the Soviet Union. If you choose to be so completely biased, do you honestly expect reasonable people to believe any of your articles?

—Dave Doyle
West Hills

Wild, Wild West

Dear Editor:

Thank you for the story by Charles Crellin about Russell Jacoby's book *The Last Intellectuals* ["New School Ties," *L.A. Weekly*, July 22-28]. This is the kind of exciting, well-researched journalism that can compete with *Rolling Stone*. It is good that the wild, wild west has an intellectual sense that can rival New York's. It is encouraging to see news that is challenging to the imagination and an issue of the *Weekly* that is informative and colorful with legendary Little Richard on the cover.

—Jamaal As Salaam
Los Angeles

Write to Editor, L.A. Weekly, P.O. Box 29905, L.A., CA 90029. Include name and address (withheld on request) and daytime phone. Letters may be edited.

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